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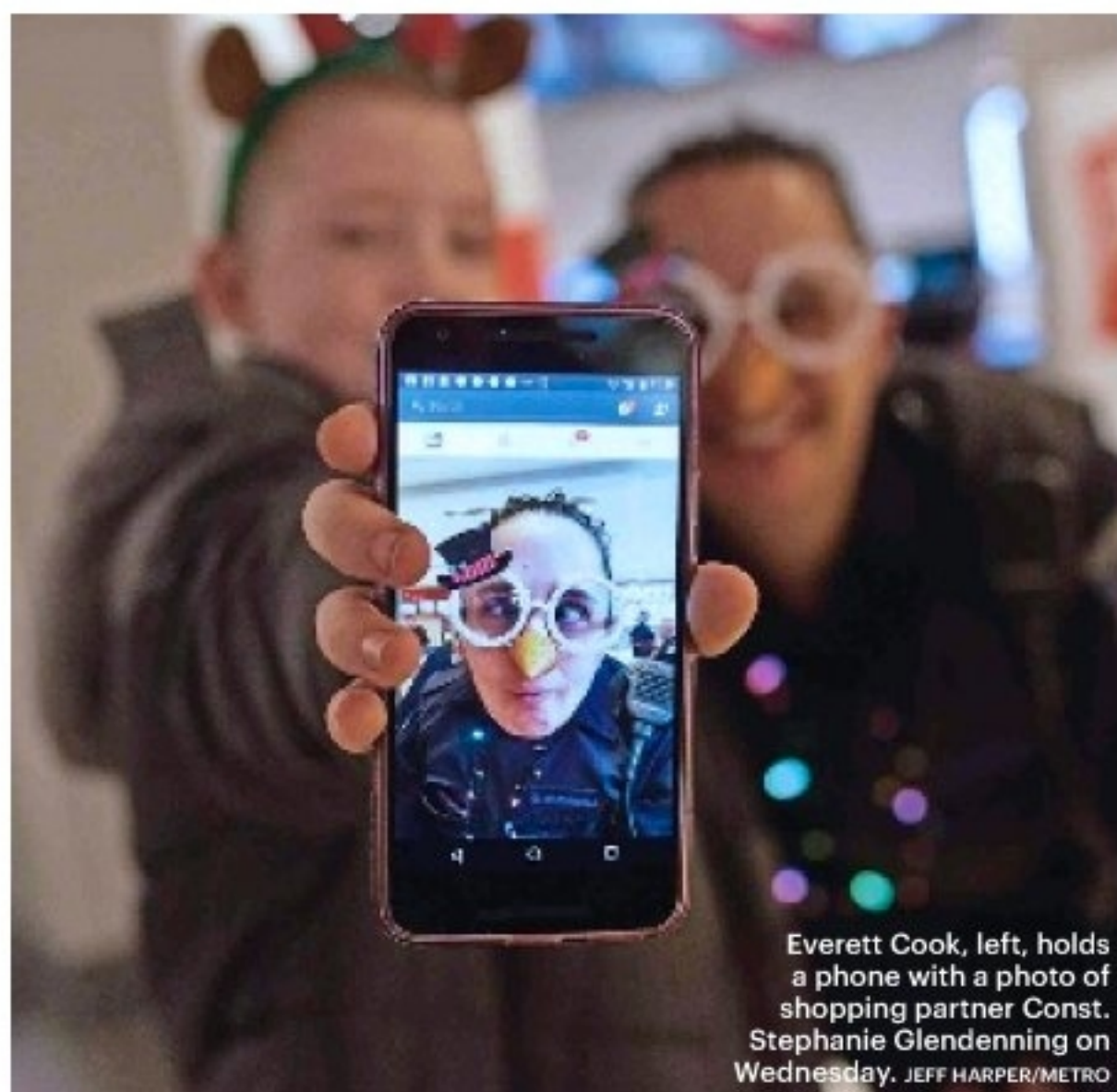
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Your essential daily news | THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2016

High 4°C/Low -1°C Showers



Everett Cook, left, holds a phone with a photo of shopping partner Const. Stephanie Glendenning on Wednesday. JEFF HARPER/METRO

FA-LA-LA-LA-LA, LA-LA-LA LAW ENFORCEMENT

Officers take kids gift shopping **metroNEWS**

In for a long, long bus ride

DARTMOUTH

Man brings councillor on his 90-minute commute



**Haley
Ryan**
Metro | Halifax

Dave Graham spends a lot of time on the bus — so he figured there was no better place to invite his councillor to talk transit.

Graham was joined just after 7 a.m. by District 5 Coun. Sam Austin on his commute from Dartmouth to Bayers Lake on Wednesday morning. The trip takes an hour and a half with two buses, though a car could make it in 25 minutes.

"If it has one little hiccup, in that whole huge long 42-stop drive,



**Three hours a day
is a lot of time
for me to not be
productive.**

Dave Graham

then I'm late for work," Graham said in an interview.

Graham lives on Joffre Street, which means his routine is catching the 62 and the 52 to Bayers Lake and back after work, totaling three hours on a bus every day — amounting to 18 days every year.

"It was quite a bus tour," Austin said Wednesday.

Since Austin lives on Tulip Street in Dartmouth and is lucky enough to be in the "fast, frequent" bus zone, he said it was good to experience what users who don't

live in an "ideal situation" have to deal with.

Austin said the situation drove home an obvious need for changes like dedicated bus lanes, queue jumps at intersections, increased frequency on key corridors and more improvements that will hopefully appear in the integrated mobility and Moving Forward Together plans.

"There's a clear demonstration here that [if we] improve the system, we will actually make a difference for people's lives. It's not just a matter of economics; it's a quality of life issue," Austin said.

Graham said he's become a "social-justice advocate" by using his commute to call councillors about city issues like transit or a Dartmouth market that needs a new roof. He's also inviting other councillors to ride along and see how broken the system is, since he's got nothing, but time.

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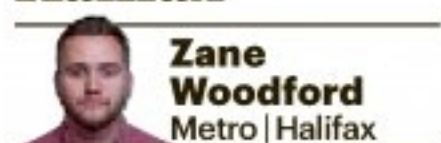
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Meeting a 'developer's bazaar'

REAL ESTATE

Public weighs in on proposed projects in Halifax



Zane Woodford
Metro | Halifax

The people of the municipality got a chance to have their say about 18 proposed developments in Halifax and Dartmouth at two unprecedented public meetings on Wednesday.

The municipality's planning department put on the two open house meetings at the Atlantica Hotel, working with developers to tell people about each of the proposals and gather their feedback.

"This is staff asking for help from the public to understand what's good and what's bad about these proposals," HRM urban design manager Jacob Ritchie said at the first meeting, which saw more than 150 participants attend.

Each of the 18 developments proposed requires amendments to municipal bylaws and approval from regional council, and Ritchie and his staff are using the public's feedback on the proposals to inform changes to the Centre Plan.

"What we're really looking

+ MISSED MEET?

You can still have your say — and check out the developments — online at halifax.ca/planning/applications/PlanningPolicyApplications_RegionalCentreDetailsPage.php

to hear about is the design details. A lot of the designs that we're looking at today take cues from some of the material we're putting out in the Centre Plan, and we're really appreciative of that," Ritchie said.

"We want to see how the public reacts to that to see if (those are) the sort of rules we should enshrine in the Centre Plan to make sure we get that consistently for the next 15 years."

To nearby resident Rollie Thompson, the open house was "overwhelm-

ing." "It's a developer's bazaar," he said. Kathy Moggridge, a member of the Willow Tree Group, agreed. "It's very difficult to participate and there's so much information to take in," she said. "It's really hard to get close up and to hear what people are saying, and I guess, process all the information."

Coun. Lindell Smith said he understood it was a lot to take in, but liked the big picture



Spring Garden West. ALL IMAGES CONTRIBUTED

view of the changing city that the meeting offered.

"It's almost like information overload at once to have (18) different proposals in one room, but it's a good way to be transparent about what's happening around the city," he said.

For Thompson, the major concern was the amount of development on the horizon.

"It's just too much," he said. "You need density, but this is ridiculous."

Ritchie said it's the same amount of development that had been happening in the suburbs, now it's just in the urban core where people can see it.

"This is not overbuilding," he said. "We're simply trying to move that development into an area where we think it's more economical to service it and where we can have the social benefits of everyone living closer together and sharing public space."



A proposed development for Agricola Street.



...and a plan for Bayers Road.



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This house along Connaught Avenue, pictured last December, is one of the more popular spots in Halifax for holiday lights. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Helping Halifax to see the light

HOLIDAY CHEER

Google map helps locate best lit homes



Yvette d'Entremont
Metro | Halifax

If the twinkle of bright light displays gets you in the holiday spirit, there's a map for that.

A recent online Halifax subreddit conversation led Mark Seymour to create a user-friendly Google map outlining the 'Best of HRM Christmas Lights 2016.'

Designed to showcase houses, retail buildings, and anything lit, sparkling and bright, users can also add photos and their own local suggestions to the interactive map.

"It came together after a user suggested that one of us (subreddit moderators)

should make a thread to catalogue and give links, pictures, addresses of different places with nice holiday decorations and light shows and such, so I made a thread," Seymour recalled.

He quickly saw the benefit of creating an interactive map, so he set up a Google map.

Others in the community added their own favourite spots and began to share the link.

"I'm a web developer by

trade and one of the things I do enjoy doing is gathering information and compiling it and presenting it in interesting ways," Seymour said. "So this made sense."

He believes the collaborative nature of the project is a good way to bring the community together to enjoy a bit of holiday cheer. Seymour's hopeful the number of brightly decorated houses and retail spaces highlighted on the HRM map will grow in the coming days as the

+ MARK'S MAP

View the holiday home map online:
<https://goo.gl/IUYfqZ>

link is shared.

On Wednesday afternoon, he said more than 300 people had already shared it via Facebook and it had received more than 15,000 views.

"Personally I think it's

nice for people to just go and see what other people have done with their houses for the holidays," he said.

"It's nice to take in the sights and just in general have a little bit brighter of a holiday."

Locations can be added to the map based on an address entered on the page or by dropping a pin onto the map and inputting the location information.

It's also possible to add photos.

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POLICE

Four charged with credit card fraud



Yvette d'Entremont
Metro | Halifax

Police have charged three men and one woman with fraud offences after an incident in Halifax on Tuesday.

In a media release, Halifax Regional Police said staff at Halifax's Chebucto Inn called them around 2:15 p.m. about a "questionable credit card transaction" and "suspicious activity" by four people who were staying there.

One man had presented a credit card to the front desk staff who learned the card was counterfeit while attempting

to verify it.

Through the course of the investigation, police arrested the four people and seized counterfeit credit cards, false identification and credit card-making equipment.

Jaleel Shyheem Harris, 20,

Tamara Courtney, 18,

Hawold Segbe Attie-Eliamon, 24,

all from Montreal,

and Jonathan Scott, 20,

from the United States, each face

charges of fraudulently obtaining

lodging, possession of equipment

to make a credit card, and

four counts of possession of a counterfeit credit card.

Courtney faces an additional charge of identity fraud.

4

All four accused appeared in court on Wednesday.

FERRY TERMINALS

Safety drill to include rolling power outages

If things seem a little odd at the ferry terminals Thursday morning, don't panic.

Halifax Transit is advising passengers of a security exercise taking place between 10 a.m. and noon Thursday at the Woodside and Halifax ferry terminals (Woodside gate only).

In a media release, Halifax Transit said in keeping with Marine Transportation and Domestic Ferries security regulations, rolling power outages and dropped cell phone coverage will be simulated at

each terminal as part of an annual exercise to test back-up protocol, ensure preparedness and inform emergency planning.

Additional staff and security will be on site and passengers may be subject to security screening as part of this exercise. This will be on a voluntary basis only.

Signage will be posted to inform passengers of the exercise. However, no service disruptions are anticipated during this time.

METRO

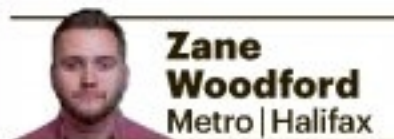


Thirteen Halifax Transit bus routes will be getting automated audio and visual stop announcements next week. JEFF HARPER/METRO FILE

Buses to be equipped with 'soothing' voice

ACCESSIBILITY

Automated system to be user-friendly, says city



Zane Woodford
Metro | Halifax

Starting next week, a "soothing" automated voice will tell you when your stop is coming on select Halifax Transit buses.

On Monday, the announcements will start on 13 routes "providing a more user-friendly and accessible transit service to riders," according to the municipality.

There were a few different automated voices available, municipal spokesperson Tiffany Chase said, and the Halifax Transit team chose the one they found "most appealing."

"It's a female voice, and I have actually gone on a demo of the system and I would say it's very soothing," Chase said.

Transit staff also had to assign

a name to each of the roughly 2,500 bus stops in the system. In most cases, the voice will call out the intersection closest to the stop, in others it will call out a nearby landmark, and in the absence of either, a civic address.

Audio announcements will sound on speakers inside and outside the bus, and visual announcements will be shown on display screens inside the bus.

"This was a service that has been requested through the Accessibility Advisory Committee as well as those who have hearing and visual impairments through-

out the region, and we're very pleased to be able to offer this service now," Chase said.

The first 13 routes will be used as a pilot project so Halifax Transit can iron out any kinks before installing the announcements on all buses sometime in 2017.

+ PILOT PROJECT

The routes with the automated system are 2, 7, 20, 21, 35, 54, 59, 60, 72, 80, 87, 89 and 400.

ABERCROMBIE, N.S.

Woman dies in two-vehicle crash

A two-vehicle collision occurred on the Trenton Connector in Pictou County near the intersection of Abercrombie Road, Wednesday, just before lunchtime, resulting in one fatality.

The collision involved a car and a dump truck.

"The driver of the car was a female and she died as a result of the collision. She was pronounced dead at the scene unfortunately," said RCMP Cpl. Dal Hutchinson.

No other information about the victim was available.

The driver of the truck was not injured, police said. There were no other people in the vehicles.

A portion of the Trenton connector will be shut down until further notice.

Hutchinson said the collision analyst arrived to the scene of



Wednesday's crash scene in Pictou County on the Trenton Connector near the intersection of Abercrombie Road. TC MEDIA

the accident right away, and that procedure takes "a considerable amount of time."

School buses that travel through the area were expected

to be delayed.

As of 3:45 p.m., the road was expected to be closed for several more hours.

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INVESTIGATION POLICE RESPOND TO INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT A man suffered non-life-threatening injuries in an industrial accident on Adelaide Avenue in Fairview on Wednesday afternoon. Police said the worker was taken to hospital and the province's department of labour was investigating. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Not a 'chess game': NDP

EDUCATION

Zann says Liberals have mismanaged file on schools

While not outright calling on Education Minister Karen Casey to resign, Lenore Zann said there is a growing chorus demanding government take some form of drastic measure to reach a contract settlement.

"It's a difficult question because I understand how hard it is to be in government," the NDP MLA for Truro-Bible Hill-Millbrook-Salmon River said with respect to the education minister.

"But in this particular instance, I do feel that they have mismanaged this file. And I feel that there has been a lot more anxiety, unnecessary fears, people put out unnecessarily and made to do things that they really didn't need

to do," she said.

And while "it is not for me to call for her head," in regard to resigning as education minister, Zann believes Casey should consider it.

Zann said the Liberal government has been treating its impasse with teachers like a "chess game," using parents as "pawns."

After hearing from people who are upset about what is happening, in terms of "threats, bullying and the chaos," Zann said she has personally "lost confidence in the premier as well."

"They figured they were losing the public opinion battle and they wanted to try and divide and conquer the public, so the public will rise up against the teachers," she said.

But that move backfired when the government backed away from introducing legislation on Monday that would have forced a contract on the teachers, Zann said. TC MEDIA

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Student: 'It's like being a king'

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

Holiday wishes come true for kids shopping with police



Jen Taplin
For Metro | Halifax

Austin Dickie could hardly sleep Tuesday night and it wasn't even Christmas Eve.

The nine-year-old was thrilled to be chosen for this year's Cop Shop put on by Halifax Regional Police.

On Wednesday he was handed a \$200 gift card for any store in the Halifax Shopping Centre. The child was matched with K-9 officer Jamie Cooke and his wife Aimee Cooke.

They started out by eating pizza in the food court then picked out a new winter coat at Sport Chek.

"Austin, it's like being a king," Jamie said as they walked through the mall.

More than 50 kids and their police escorts meandered through the mall on Wednesday buying chocolate, clothes and other Christmas wishes.

A new pair of skates was at the top of Dickie's list because his neighbour has a backyard rink.

"And I'm looking for a fan for my room because sometimes I can't get to bed be-



1 Austin Dickie smiles as he tries on a new jacket during Cop Shop on Wednesday.

2 K-9 officer Jamie Cooke, left, introduces Austin Dickie to his partner Recon. PHOTOS: JEFF HARPER/METRO

cause I'm really hot," he said. "Yeah, I need a fan."

When asked what it was like to go shopping with a police officer by his side, Dickie took a minute to try to put it into words. Then his face broke into a big smile.

"It's amazing really," he said. "I can't believe I was the only one chosen from my school."

During a break from shopping, Cooke took Dickie out to his vehicle to meet his police dog Recon, making Dickie's day even brighter.

"We can be kids again," Jamie said.

"I get to experience everything through his eyes: the spirit of the holidays, the giving. It goes both ways on this."

Jamie and Aimee, who have two kids, look forward to the Cop Shop every year.

"The kids just get so excited, they're really into it," Aimee said.

"And it's nice you often see they want to get stuff for themselves but also for their family members."

DETAILS

12th Annual Cop Shop by Halifax Regional Police.

53 children were matched with 60 officers.

Each child receives a \$200 gift card, a new winter coat, a stocking filled with presents, and a \$10 gift card to pay it forward.

Kids are in Grades 3 to 6, and are eight to 12 years old.

They are nominated by school officers.



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CHASE THE ACE

Fundraising lottery exceeds \$1M

For the third time in just over a year, the fundraising lottery with its mass appeal and contagious nature will make somebody a millionaire in Cape Breton.

But will it be before Christmas?

Debra MacLean, executive director of the Haley Street Adult Services Centre, one of four charitable causes benefiting from the Northside 4 Chase the Ace, is all for someone getting an early Christmas present. But the passion she holds for the vocational training facility leaves one hoping that Sunday's draw winner picks any of the remaining 12 cards other than the ace of spades, if only so the centre and other benefiting organizations can top up their coffers.

"Now that we are this level with so many people buying [Chase the Ace] tickets, we're dreaming about how much bet-

ter we can be at what we're already doing — this is not about keeping the doors open, it's about keeping the doors open in a better way," said

MacLean.

So far, the Northside 4 Chase the Ace has allowed the Haley Street Centre to purchase a 15-seat passenger van and to start construction of a new addition to the facility that once served as a local school.

More than \$316,000 was spent on tickets for last week's draw that saw winner Dorothy MacAskill, of Glace Bay, take home \$63,333. Both figures are expected to be higher this week now that the estimated jackpot has exceeded one million dollars (\$1,044,000).

The draw takes place Sunday at 4 p.m.

If the jackpot isn't won, the next draw will take place on Sunday, Dec. 18, but if that week's draw winner also fails to pick the ace of spades, then the game will go on hiatus until Jan. 8.



CONTRIBUTED

TC MEDIA



Bowie by Carla McAfee. CONTRIBUTED

Dartmouth pays its respects 'To the Stars'

ART

Last exhibit of year honours legends who died in 2016



Jen Taplin
For Metro | Halifax

A Dartmouth art gallery is closing out the calendar with a tribute to the many legends who died in 2016.

Opening Friday, The Dart Gallery's last exhibit of the year is called To the Stars. It showcases the work of over 20 local artists paying tribute to those who left an enormous mark on the world.

"It seemed like a fitting way to end the year because it was such a strange year for losing so many really big and influential artists, musicians and public figures," said Jane MacDougald with The Dart Gallery.

The exhibit features mostly paintings, but there are also sculptures and collages, which mix lyrics with imagery.

The most popular tributes of the exhibit's 30-plus pieces are to David Bowie, Prince, Leonard Cohen and Gene Wilder.

"There's a good bit of portraiture, some really well done and elegant portraits. There are some that are more interpretive like a couple of abstract pieces that are dedicated to Prince that are very purple," MacDougald said.

"There's also a really beautiful steel sculpture that is a trib-

+ GO VISIT

To the Stars runs until Dec. 24 at The Dart Gallery on Portland Street.

ute to Leonard Cohen called Bird on a Wire."

While the losses in 2016 may feel immense, the exhibit is not meant to be sombre, MacDougald said.

"While the idea definitely has those undertones, it's a really fun show. It's celebratory and it's certainly not meant to bring anyone down," she said.

Chef Allan McPherson, who runs Picnic at Dart, uses the exhibits as inspiration for his menus and MacDougald said he is coming up with some great dishes for this show as well.

CLIMATE CHANGE

New Brunswick promises to phase out coal electricity

The New Brunswick government has released a climate change action plan that includes phasing out coal as a source of electricity and puts a price on carbon.

Premier Brian Gallant says climate change is the most important issue to face humankind in modern times and New Brunswick must do its part to combat it.

The plan sets 2030 as the target for phasing out coal, but says that could be delayed until 2040 with agreement from the federal government.

NB Power currently operates a large coal-fired power plant in Belledune.

While the plan says there will be a "made-in-New Brunswick" price on carbon and caps on greenhouse gas emissions,

there are few details other than the assurance that it will recognize the province's unique economic and social circumstances.

Opposition members are applauding the plan and the effort to combat climate change.

Gallant will present the plan during a first ministers' meeting on Friday in Ottawa

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Sponsorship to speed up

GOVERNMENT

Another \$25M allotted for immigration backlog

Ottawa has vowed to cut the processing times and backlogs for spousal immigration applications by more than half with an expanded annual quota for 2017 and a new simplified application kit available next week.

Starting immediately, most spousal sponsorship applications submitted in and outside Canada

will be processed within 12 months, down from the current average of 26 months and 18 months respectively, Immigration Minister John McCallum announced on Wednesday.

"We have listened to Canadians and are delivering results.

Bringing families together makes for a stronger Canada. Canadians who marry someone from abroad shouldn't have to wait for years to have them immigrate or be left with uncertainty in terms of their ability to stay," McCallum told a news conference in Brampton, Ont.

"What we are announcing today is a more efficient, more considerate process to reunite families."



Bringing families together makes for a stronger Canada.

John McCallum

Complaints by Canadians and their foreign spouses and dependants over long processing times and lengthy separations had fallen on deaf ears under the previous Conservative government.

Although the Liberals had made the backlog a priority during the election, the immigration department had been preoccupied with the ambitious project to resettle thousands of Syrian refugees. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Edmonton volunteers are offering carnations to women wearing hijabs with the message, "This is for you." KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

Flowers used to fight racism

Sarah Hoyles

For Metro | Edmonton

Janelle Venne is one of dozens of volunteers who handed out flowers to Muslim women Wednesday at Edmonton's University LRT station.

The daylong effort, where volunteers offered 1,000 carnations to women wearing hijabs with

the message, "This is for you," is in response to recent news of a man holding a noose and threatening Muslim women at the station.

More than a dozen volunteers have stepped up to help.

Volunteers raised money for the flowers through local donations and from donations outside the city.

In just 24 hours, the Alberta

Muslim Public Affairs Council raised \$500.

The flowers are in response to a Nov. 8 incident at the station, when an elderly man threatened two young women wearing hijabs.

One of the women took video of the man pulling a rope from his pocket, tying a noose with it before issuing the threat, "This is for you!"

EDMONTON

Democracy survey is hackable



Ryan Tumilty
Metro | Ottawa

An Ottawa man said he has voted multiple times in the Liberal government's new democracy survey and believes it's designed to fail.

Ammario Reza said just by using different devices and logging onto a café's Wi-Fi he has managed to vote multiple times in the mydemocracy.ca website.

"All it asks for is a postal code and that's it. It accepted the results," he said. "It just kept accepting the results over and over again."

He said he backs a move to a proportional representation system and was disappointed the survey wasn't more substantial.

David Valentin, executive vice-president of Mainstreet Research, said the inclusion of a postal code actually helps create a survey that will be fairly measured.

"If 1,000 people in my postal code in Montreal fill out the survey, our responses are only going to count proportional to our population."

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Leaders debate pipelines

ASSEMBLY OF FIRST NATIONS

Communities split over energy projects

A First Nations leader from northern Alberta is urging his fellow chiefs to resist buying into the arguments of environmentalists opposed to pipeline projects and the oilsands.

Fort McKay Chief Jim Boucher said his small community of 800 Cree and Dene people is dependent on the oil industry for its economic well-being.

In the 1980s, Boucher said his reserve turned to the oil industry when its trapping economy was "going in the tank", noting the partnership has led to employment for band members.

"We are pro-oilsands," he said. "If it wasn't for the oilsands, my people would be in poverty right now."

The debate about controversial energy projects, including the Kinder Morgan pipeline, recently approved by the Liberal



Indigenous and Northern Affairs Minister Carolyn Bennett looks on as Assembly of First Nations Chief Perry Bellegarde speaks during a session at the AFN Special Chiefs assembly in Gatineau, on Wednesday. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

government, took centre stage Wednesday at an Assembly of First Nations meeting.

"We want you to understand that it is not a clear-cut issue," Boucher said.

"Our people will be affected if the economy goes down in Alberta, especially the oilsands

economy. Our people will be put out of work — we will back on that social list."

It is critical to ensure industry does not divide First Nations, said Kanesatake Grand Chief Serge Simon — a Quebec Mohawk leader who is part of the Treaty Alliance Against Tar

Sands Expansion.

In September, indigenous people from Canada and the U.S. signed an agreement to fight plans to build pipelines, saying additional development will harm the environment.

"I'm not going to let the industry divide Chief Boucher

and myself," Simon said. "I just don't agree with expansion of the tarsands."

Indigenous leaders have a responsibility to block threats to the land, water and their people, he added.

"First Nations are going to be the first climate refugees," Simon said. "There's no doubt about it."

Natural Resource Minister Jim Carr personally contacted Simon and apologized for remarks for suggesting "defence forces" might respond to non-peaceful protests.

Canada not only tolerates dissent, but it embraces dissent, because it is an essential characteristic of being Canadian, Carr added outside a Liberal caucus meeting on Tuesday.

AFN National Chief Perry Bellegarde has acknowledged that First Nations are split over pipelines, including the Kinder Morgan link between Alberta and suburban Vancouver.

His organization does not have an official position on the project, but Bellegarde said communities maintain the right to self-determination.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

GOVERNMENT

Climate plan still in works

The long-awaited pan-Canadian climate plan to be finalized this week by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and the premiers won't include a detailed account of how Canada will meet its international 2030 emissions target.

Federal sources tell The Canadian Press that while there will be a list of climate policies taken by various governments, don't expect to see a balance sheet laying out the specific path to 524 million tonnes of greenhouse gases.

Erin Flanagan of the Pembina Institute think tank and others are quick to praise policy moves so far — including a federal floor price on CO2 emissions starting in 2018 — but also note the Liberal government's recent major fossil fuel infrastructure approvals take Canada's emissions profile in the wrong direction.

"We have not yet seen the first ministers articulate what that balance sheet looks like for the country and we think that's an essential output for the meeting on Friday," Flanagan said Wednesday in a conference call.

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IRAQ UN scrambling to shelter displaced

The UN is scrambling to find enough land to shelter those displaced by the fighting to retake Mosul from Daesh as humanitarians brace for the exodus of as many as 700,000 people from the city, an official said Wednesday.

Bruno Geddo, the UN's top humanitarian official in Iraq, said that there is currently enough space in camps for 180,000 people.

"That is the thing that makes us somehow sleepless at night. You cannot be complacent when you still have one million people inside the city," he explained.

Geddo said he and his colleagues were haunted by the memory of Fallujah where some 65,000 people fled the city over three days during an operation to retake the city from Daesh in June, quickly overwhelming humanitarian efforts. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

UNITED STATES Trump chooses hardliners

Donald Trump embraced new Cabinet officers Wednesday whose backgrounds suggest he's primed to put tough actions behind his campaign rhetoric on immigration and the environment, even as he seemed to soften his yearlong stance on immigrants brought to the U.S. illegally as children.

It's clearer by the day that Trump's policies as president won't be settled until after he takes his seat in the Oval Office.

Retired Marine Gen. John Kelly has been selected to head the Department of Homeland Security, and Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt, a climate-change denier whose policies have helped fossil fuel companies, is to be announced as head of the Environmental Protection Agency. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Thousands take refuge in mosques after Aceh quake

INDONESIA

Nearly 100 people killed, hundreds more injured

Thousands of people in the Indonesian province of Aceh took refuge for the night in mosques and temporary shelters after a strong earthquake Wednesday killed nearly 100 people and destroyed dozens of buildings.

Some were homeless after the quake made their houses unsafe and others were too scared to return home. Killer quakes occur regularly in the

region, where many live with the terrifying memory of a giant Dec. 26, 2004, earthquake that struck off Sumatra. The magnitude-9.1 quake triggered a devastating tsunami that killed more than 100,000 Acehnese.

Maj. Gen. Tatang Sulaiman, chief of the army in Aceh province, said at least 97 died in the magnitude-6.5 quake that hit before dawn Wednesday, while four people had been pulled from the rubble alive. The Indonesian government declared a two-week emergency period in Aceh and some aid was already reaching hard-hit areas.

The rescue effort involving thousands of search officials, villagers, soldiers and police is



I'm really scared about a tsunami. I don't want to return home tonight.

Siti Rukiah

concentrated on Meureudu, a severely affected town in Pidie Jaya district near the epicenter. Excavators and rescue teams removed debris from shop houses and other buildings where people were believed to be buried.

The pace of the search slowed after night fall, hampered by rain and blackouts.

The U.S. Geological Survey said the earthquake was centred about 19 kilometres southeast of Sigli, a town near the northern tip of Sumatra, at a depth of 17 kilometres. The agency had

initially placed the epicenter undersea. It did not generate a tsunami.

Siti Rukiah, 51, a mother of four, was among the many people taking refuge in local mosques. She and about 100 other people from Pante Raja, a seaside village in Pidie Jaya district, fled to Nur Abdullah mosque located on higher ground in a nearby hamlet.

She said the quake was shallow and felt so powerful she had to grab onto a table to keep from falling down. She was sure a tsu-

nami was coming.

"I'm really scared about a tsunami," said Rukiah, whose brother and neighbours died in the 2004 disaster. "I don't want to return home tonight, not only because my house is damaged, but I am still afraid an aftershock could cause a tsunami."

Aceh's disaster mitigation agency said more than 600 people were injured. The national disaster agency said about 245 buildings were seriously damaged or destroyed in Pidie Jaya and neighbouring Bireuen district, including 14 mosques. The rest were mainly dwellings and shop houses. Roads also cracked and power poles toppled over.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Family members gather around earthquake victims in Pidie Jaya, Aceh province, Indonesia, on Wednesday. A strong earthquake rocked Aceh province, killing a large number of people and sparking a frantic rescue effort in the rubble of dozens of collapsed and damaged buildings. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CALIFORNIA

'Families want answers' as details emerge in Oakland warehouse fire

The fire that killed 36 people during a party at an Oakland warehouse started on the ground floor and quickly raged, with smoke billowing into the second level and trapping victims whose only escape route was through the flames, federal investigators said Wednesday.

"The occupants were consumed by smoke before they could get out of the building," said Jill Snyder, special agent in charge of the San Francisco office of the Bureau of Alcohol, To-

bacco, Firearms and Explosives. She also confirmed there were no sprinklers or fire alarm system in the building.

Officials previously said recovery efforts at the site had ended with the death toll remaining at 36.

Snyder reiterated that investigators were examining a refrigerator and other possibilities as a potential source of the fire, but had not reached any conclusions. Investigators have not found evidence of arson, but she said

they have also not ruled it out.

Officials hope to create a virtual, 3D reconstruction of the building for criminal and civil investigations and to provide answers to family members about their loved ones' last moments, Alameda County Sheriff's office spokesperson Sgt. Ray Kelly said.

"Where was my son or daughter? Where were they standing? How come they didn't get out?" he said. "Families want answers. They need answers."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EMOJI

Japan worried 'onsen' emoji will confuse Olympic tourists



Rebecca Chiu
Metro | Toronto

Japan is worried Westerners visiting for the Olympics in Tokyo will be confused by a popular map and sign symbol indicating hot springs, and expect food to be awaiting them instead.

The country is more than three years away from hosting the 2020 Summer Games, but officials think the onsen symbol

looks too much like a plate of hot food with steam rising from it.

The symbol representing hot springs is already included in emoji sets from both Apple and Google, who have taken inspiration from Japan's maps and signs.

The companies could have to do the same if Japan decides to make the change.

The country is reviewing some 90 other symbols as Japan prepares to host the Games and the tourists, athletes and media that come with the event.



Japan might change the 'onsen' symbol — meant to indicate hot springs. Officials worry Olympics tourists could mistake the symbol for hot food. TWITTER.COM

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Business | metro NEWS

Starbucks to open 12,000 new outlets

GROWTH

More food, app with artificial intelligence in five-year plan

Starbucks, looking to the future as its longtime CEO moves to other projects, plans to open 12,000 new locations within five years to boost its number of coffee shops worldwide by almost 50 per cent.

The Seattle-based chain is also adding more food to its menu next year, including organic soups, gluten-free breakfast sandwiches and a wheat-free cooked egg product. And sometime in 2017, customers will be able to talk to the Starbucks app to order a latte or cookie instead of tapping their smartphones.

Starbucks outlined its five-year growth plans to investors on Wednesday, about a week after it announced that Howard Schultz, who has built



Starbucks is increasing the total number of its coffee shops worldwide by almost 50 per cent. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Starbucks into a global brand with 25,000 locations since first joining the company more than 30 years ago, would step down as CEO in April. Starbucks has been facing increasing competition from Dunkin' Donuts and McDonald's as those companies add more specialty coffee drinks to their menus.

About 5,000 of the 12,000 stores Starbucks plans to open

by 2021 will be in China.

Starbucks also wants to get more customers to buy lunch at its shops by offering organic soups and adding more sandwiches and wraps. An app update next year will use artificial intelligence technology to let customers order by voice and have the app respond immediately with a message.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MOOSE KNUCKLES

Parka-maker reaches deal with watchdog

Winter jacket maker Moose Knuckles has reached a deal with the Competition Bureau regarding concerns over its advertising and labelling of certain parkas that are promoted as made-in-Canada.

Under the agreement, reached through mediation, the company has agreed to donate \$750,000 over five years to charities in Canada, such as those that provide winter coats to children in need.

In addition, Moose Knuckles has agreed to make it clearer that certain parkas are made with Canadian and imported components.

The company will also add operations at its Canadian factories and implement an in-

ternal compliance program to ensure that advertising and labelling issues do not occur again.

The Competition Bureau had alleged winter coats marketed as made-in-Canada were mostly made in Vietnam and elsewhere in Asia.

The bureau alleged that only the finishing touches to the jackets, such as the trim, zippers and snaps, are done in Canada, something that Moose Knuckles "vigorously" rejected.

Moose Knuckles said the agreement will secure the continued employment of hundreds of skilled Canadian workers.

The company said it appreciates the guidance it has received from the Competition Bureau to improve the information available to consumers and has reaffirmed its implementation of the regulator's made-in-Canada guidelines.

"Our brand may be cheeky, but we take seriously our commitment to Canadian manufacturing and working within the framework outlined by the Competition Bureau in its guidelines," Noah Stern, CEO of Moose International Inc., said in a statement.



Made in Canada Moose Knuckles coat with its label.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SWEET DEAL

Brooke Shields' gift list lifts maple syrup sales

Brooke Shields' gift list is sweetening a Vermont family farm's sale of maple syrup. The 109-year-old Robb Family Farm says it's seen a 60 per cent jump in sales since the actress listed the syrup among her 12 best holiday gifts for women published in People Magazine's holiday gift guide last month. The Robbs sell their maple syrup at their farm store, a local store and online.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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VICKY MOCHAMA

An ode to Canada's own pronoun protector

I had hoped that if we stopped caring then one day Jordan Peterson would gracefully go away. In many interviews with the nation's press (And well, naturally. Of course. Who else?) He tells of how he was once a prof at Harvard just so you know he's the best, a super smart nerd.

As a professor, though, it seems he'd be a pest. Because, as the breadth and scope of his views suggest, He has no real interest in citing his sources. Or going back to solely teaching his courses.

But he won't fade away; no, he simply will not. He's determined to keep the outrage fires hot. Talking to C2C Journal, a mag of ideas, He shared a few of his own, and I was all ears: He won't use gender pronouns like xe, xim or xer. It's his right not to do so. (The law protects this cur.)

Yet none of that is new — not worth the contention, It's his other views that bear paying attention: Women weren't discriminated against, says he. An untruth so bold as saying a cat is a tree.

Although out his depth, he continues to swim: The pill makes girls dislike macho men like him. What the research truly says, if you care to know is women's choices change, along with their flow. So in amplifying our tastes, the pill plays a part: It won't make us hate men — we do that cause it's smart.

Peterson spouts lines from Breitbart, The Daily Mail where science gets turned into a right-wing fairy tale. He worries he'll be fired for speaking his truth. I'm more concerned that he's teaching our youth.



Dr. Jordan Peterson, the controversial, and newly apostrophized, University of Toronto professor. CARLOS OSORIO/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

EMMA TEITEL ON A SNUBBED SUFFRAGETTE

I was ticked off that Nellie McClung wasn't going to appear on money until I revisited the life and times of my childhood hero and learned some unsavoury things



When I was a kid I had two heroes: Queen Hatshepsut, the fifth pharaoh of the eighteenth dynasty of Egypt, and Nellie McClung, the late and great suffragette of Winnipeg.

Needless to say, these women did not have a lot in common. Queen Hatshepsut wore a fake beard and is believed to have gone to bed with her architect, Senenmut, on a regular basis. Something tells me that McClung, a no-nonsense Christian and a teetotaler, wasn't a big fan of sex out of wedlock (even with a master builder) or, for that matter, dressing up in drag.

But like Queen Hatshepsut, McClung was a big fan of women's legal rights — a cause she fought long and hard for alongside the rest of "The Famous Five": Henrietta Muir Edwards, Irene Parlby, Louise McKinney and Emily Murphy.

In 1929, McClung and her peers successfully petitioned for a woman's right to be appointed to the Senate in the landmark "Persons Case" — now immortalized in Canadian history textbooks and more importantly, on TV, in its very own Canadian Heritage Minute. (When it comes to an important event in Canadian history, I do wonder, if there's no Heritage Minute to show for it, did it really happen?)

McClung was also a fierce proponent of property rights for married women, children's health and dental care, and safe working conditions in the typically gruesome factories of the day.

It's no wonder why so many

A nation's currency is a public resource used by all Canadians, including the mentally disabled

of us assumed she'd be the first non-royal female face to appear on Canadian currency.

When Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced earlier this year that a woman's face would at long last grace a Canadian banknote, McClung was believed by many to be a shoo-in for the position. And yet, despite being the fa-

may have glossed over (or that I may have chosen to ignore). McClung did a lot of good, but she did a lot of bad too. And I'm not referring to the predictable breed of bad that almost everyone in her day was party to (for example, a casual prejudice against minorities and gay people). I'm talking about the kind of bad



COMPLICATED LEGACY Nellie McClung, shown in an undated photo, was left off the short list of famous Canadian women who are in the running to appear on a banknote.

C. JESSOP/NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF CANADA/THE CANADIAN PRESS

avourite choice in online polls, McClung was not selected to appear on the official short list of female currency candidates. The final decision will be revealed Thursday.

In no particular order, the short list comprises E. Pauline Johnson, Viola Desmond, Elizabeth MacGill, Fanny Rosenfeld and Idola Saint-Jean: all remarkable and worthy candidates (whose achievements range from resistance to racism, to writing, to Olympic running), but who are also arguably far less known than McClung. And it turns out, far less controversial.

The McClung omission ticked off a lot of people. It ticked me off too, until I revisited the life and times of my childhood hero and learned some pretty unsavoury things about the suffragette that my textbooks

that verges on evil: like, say, championing eugenics and the forced sterilization of mentally disabled and mentally ill people.

Unfortunately, this sort of thing was Nellie McClung's bag, so much so that according to The Canadian Encyclopedia, McClung's public enthusiasm for eugenics was a big help in the passage of the Alberta Sexual Sterilization Act in 1928, a piece of legislation that enabled the sterilization of almost 3,000 people between 1929 and 1972.

Suddenly, McClung's omission from the currency short list doesn't seem quite so strange, does it? Suddenly, it makes a lot more sense.

A nation's currency — the cash that lines our wallets and creases in our pockets — isn't a private institution or a university scholarship available

to few; it's a public resource used (and abused) by all Canadians, the mentally disabled and the mentally ill alike. And I'd much rather see a personage grace my dollar bills who didn't count "legislate eugenics" among her life's greatest achievements. (Also, for the record, there are dozens of other ways to immortalize Canadians with complicated legacies; a more useful question than "Why isn't Nellie McClung on our money?" is "Why aren't there more films and TV shows about the Famous Five?")

Some critics of the McClung omission, such as Shannon VanRaes of Metro Winnipeg, argue that eliminating the suffragette from the running on account of her sterilization advocacy is proof of a sexist double standard. There are, after all a multitude of morally bankrupt men on our banknotes. Why should their faces remain crumpled on the cash in our purses, while McClung's is relegated to history textbooks?

But this argument is misleading. Because the question before us isn't about bank notes past — when people rarely, if ever, questioned the commemoration of a historical figure on account of his or her sins against a marginalized group. The question before us is about bank notes present. And in the present moment, and in the age of president-elect Donald Trump no less, it's a good thing that we don't jump to immortalize historical figures on our national currency who championed eugenics.

This isn't proof of an outdated sexist double standard. It's proof of a modern moral standard that bends toward the dignity of everyone.

Emma Teitel is a national affairs columnist for the Toronto Star.

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Dress to be the hottest person at the party



It's that time of year again. Jack Frost nipping at your nose, yuletide carols sung by a choir, and folks dressed up like ... well, thank goodness we're here to help you with that last one. Toronto-based fashion stylist Hazel Ong suggests using seasonal festivities as an excuse to sport something you wouldn't any other time of year. Oh, and: "wear something you can dance all night in," she says. Here are some outfit suggestions, broken down by personality type. **NICHOLE JANKOWSKI/FOR METRO**

The Flirt: show off a work-appropriate erogenous zone

December is still cuffing season, so if you're single and looking to lock one down then consider showing off this season's totally office-party appropriate erogenous zone: the shoulders. Off-the-shoulder has been everywhere since spring but for men, JW Anderson has been doing it since Fall/Winter 2013. Choose a seasonal fabric like a velvet or metallic.

The Centre of Attention: helical striped stockings

If you want to be the most talked-about person in the room then candy cane-striped stockings are for you. Pair red and white tights with a floral or brocade dress for the most impact. The Balenciaga Fall/Winter 2016 runway version seen here is available online, but for \$195 it might be worth checking your local sex shop first. Remember, you're looking for a helical stripe that winds up the leg — the idea isn't to look like the Wicked Witch of the West, you want your gams to look like two barber poles.

The Foodie: cinnamon browns and biscotti beiges

If you are what you eat, then why not dress the part? From cinnamon browns to biscotti beiges, head-to-toe nudes are everywhere thanks to Yeezy Season 3 and the Kardashian clan. May we suggest a gingerbread man-inspired ensemble? Choose an overcoat or blazer with oversized buttons to really finish the look.

Rihanna in Christian Dior and Solange Knowles is pictured at a Eckhaus Latta show. Knowles is also wearing Brother Vellies shoes, designed by Canadian Aurora James and carried at Nordstrom's The Space. **PASCAL LE SEGRETAIR AND MIREYA ACIERTO/GETTY**



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JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

The rewarding luxury of time

THE SHOW: *Westworld*, S1, E10 (HBO)
THE MOMENT: The Escape

Maeve (Thandie Newton), a robotic madam, seems to have achieved human consciousness. Now she's busting out of the eerily lifelike *Westworld* theme park, along with human scientist Felix (Leonardo Nam) and two gunslinger robots, Armistice (Ingrid Bolso Bernal) and Hector (Rodrigo Santoro).

They ride an elevator down to the lab. They traverse a hallway of glass-walled rooms; in them, robots learn to gamble, bathe, have sex. Suddenly, an army of security guards fires at them.

Armistice and Hector duck into a storage room, where scores of naked robots stand. They slit a guard's throat. Armistice grabs his gun. Chortling at its power, she offs several guards.

The foursome barge into a power-generating room, then into another lab. In here, however, the robots are Samuri practicing swordplay.

"What is this place?" Maeve asks.

"It's complicated," Felix answers.

It sure is.

Yesterday I wrote about *The Crown*'s pricey production values. *Westworld*'s budget makes *The Crown*'s look spare. In this single sequence, there are multiple sets, hundreds of pre-

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.



Ingrid Bolso Bernal, Leonardo Nam, Rodrigo Santoro and Thandie Newton in a scene from the *Westworld* season finale.
 CONTRIBUTED

cisely costumed extras, elaborate stunts, and CGI. Yet this isn't an exception — every sequence is like this.

Here's the true marker of HBO's financial commitment, though: The network allowed series creators Lisa Joy and Jonathan Nolan to shut down production in the mid-

dle of season one so they could craft a richer story. And they won't air season two until 2018, because Joy and Nolan need a year to write.

Extras, costumes, sets, CGI — all are costly. But in TV, the most lavish luxury — and the most rewarding — is time.



Pitt's custody files won't be sealed

PRIVACY

Agreement calls for therapist guided visits

A judge on Wednesday rejected Brad Pitt's request to seal details about custody arrangements in his divorce from Angelina Jolie Pitt.

Los Angeles Superior Court Richard J. Burdge Jr. denied Pitt's request in a brief written order that states the filing did not meet the requirements for sealing details at this time. Pitt had sought to seal details of his custody dispute with Jolie Pitt at an emergency hearing, but Burdge declined to hear the petition on an expedited basis.

Pitt's motion came two days after the release of a custody agreement that he and his estranged wife reached in late October. The agreement calls for the actor to have visitation with his children under the guidance of a therapist.

Pitt intends to seek temporary custody orders soon, and his filing states that he wanted those documents sealed to protect the children's privacy. He was also seeking the sealing of any custody-related filings.

"I am extremely concerned that if court records regarding custody are not sealed, information contained therein will cause irreparable damage to our children's privacy rights," Pitt wrote in a sworn declaration filed Wednesday.

Pitt's attorney Gary Fishbein declined comment



Brad Pitt intends to seek temporary custody orders and wanted those documents sealed to protect his children's privacy.

GETTY IMAGES

after the hearing.

Jolie Pitt filed for divorce in September and currently has primary custody of their six children.

Her attorneys wrote in court filings Wednesday that Pitt's request was an attempt to shield himself from embarrassing details. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Best books to look into

READING ROUNDUP

Page-turning gifts to suit everyone on Santa's list

Tanya Enberg

With traditional books experiencing a resurgence, this holiday season give loved ones the gift of a good read they can curl up with. This round up of 2016 titles is sure to please little bookworms, lifelong word lovers, and every type of reader in between.

They All Saw a Cat, Brendan Wenzel
Chronicle Books, \$23.99
Ages 3-5

With whimsical drawings and lyrical prose, *They All Saw a Cat* is simple and smart. The New York Times bestseller follows a cat whose features transform as it is seen through the eyes of various creatures. From the perspective of a terrified mouse to a bat's night vision, this is an amusing celebration of observation.

Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets, J.K. Rowling, illustrated by Jim Kay
Bloomsbury USA, \$49.99
Ages 9+

Take a spellbinding journey into the world of wizards with the fully illustrated new edition of *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*. Bubbling over with magic, humour and beloved characters, this delightful reimagining is a home-library must for Harry Potter fans.

For adults

Faithful, Alice Hoffman
Simon & Schuster, \$32

A car accident leaves a teenage girl in a coma and her best friend dealing with crippling guilt in Alice Hoffman's *Faithful*. High schooler Shelby Richmond downward spirals as she struggles with survivor's guilt and tries to move on.

The Wonder, Emma Donoghue
HarperCollins Canada, \$32.99

Set in a small 1850s Irish village, locals and out-of-towners become captivated by the miraculous story of a girl who is said to have survived for months without food. The child also draws skeptics and is placed under the watch of a nurse determined to reveal whether she is a medical miracle or fraud.

The Couple Next Door, Shari Lapena
Doubleday Canada, \$24.95, paperback

From the first page, suspense unfolds when Anne and Marco Conti return home to find their front door open and an empty crib where their baby should be in the unsettling thriller, *The*



Secret Path, Gord Downie
Simon & Schuster, \$26.99

Singer Gord Downie brings to light the mistreatment of children at residential schools with *Secret Path*, a 10-song album featuring a graphic novel by Jeff Lemire. It tells the story of Chanie "Charlie" Wenjack, a 12-year-old boy who died of hunger and exposure after running away from a Kenora, Ont. school in 1966 to try and get home.

Cookbooks

The Best Kind of People, Zoe Whittall
House of Anansi Press, \$22.95, paperback

When a bombshell accusation of sexual impropriety is brought against George Woodbury, a beloved teacher, husband and father, his family is left to cope with denial and anger — and the possibility of guilt — in the heartbreaking book, *The Best Kind of People*.

The Girl with the Lower Back Tattoo, Amy Schumer
Gallery Books, \$36.99

Star comedian Amy Schumer shares stories of love, family and friendship, all brushed with her signature dry humor in this confessional collection of essays. Schumer's sassiness is evident throughout, but she also delves into deeper terrain, too, opening up about her father's multiple sclerosis and ending gun violence.

Small Victories: Recipes, Advice + Hundreds of Ideas for Home-Cooking Triumphs, Julia Turshen
Chronicle Books, \$50

Small Victories is brimming with culinary inspiration for seasoned and beginner home cooks. Featuring more than 400 recipes, from turkey and Ricotta meatballs to peach and bourbon milkshakes, the pages are filled with flavours for all occasions.

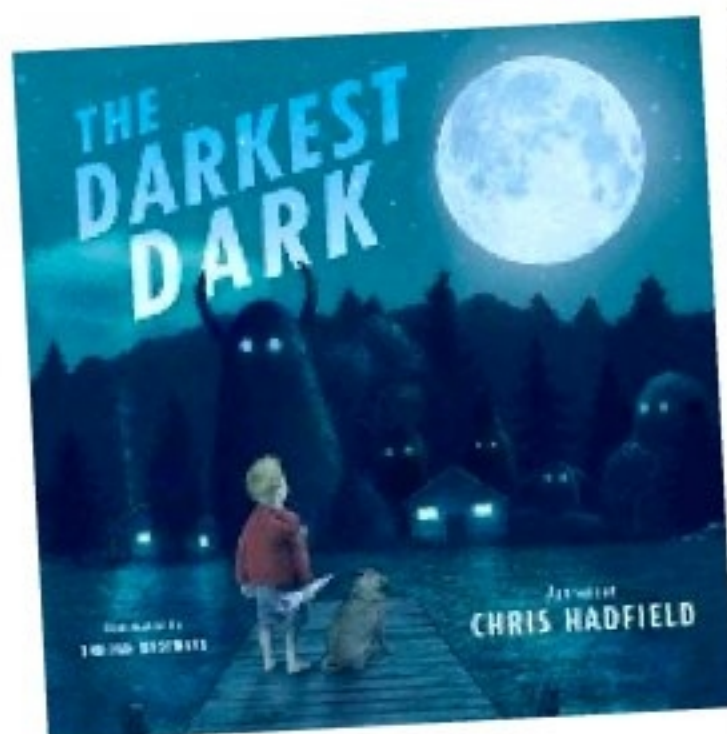
Green Kitchen Smoothies: Healthy and Colorful Smoothies for Every Day, David Frenkiel and Luise Vindahl
Hardie Grant, \$27.99

Whether seeking an energy boost or wanting to sneak more veggies into your child's diet, *Green Kitchen Smoothies* shines with fresh ideas, from orange sesame smoothies to the deceptively healthy cacao-rich banana Snickers shake. Get ready to salivate — and bust out the blender.

Oh She Glows Every Day: Quick and Satisfying Plant-Based Recipes, Angela Liddon
Penguin Canada, \$32

Oakville based Angela Liddon is back with a collection of recipes so fresh, you'll feel healthier just flipping through the pages. Teeming with yummy, family-approved ideas (think eggplant Parmesan and stuffed avocado salad), Liddon's creations are quick, easy and immensely tempting.

All books listed are hardcover unless otherwise noted. Prices may vary, retailer dependent.



For children

The Darkest Dark, Chris Hadfield
Tundra, \$22.99
Ages 4-8

Inspired by astronaut Chris Hadfield as a child, *The Darkest Dark* tells the story of young Chris, who is brave pretending to be an astronaut, however when bedtime arrives, so does his biggest fear — darkness. After watching the Apollo 11 moon landing on TV, Chris discovers beauty in the unknown — even when it's at its darkest.

The Barefoot Book of Children, Tessa Strickland and Kate DePalma, illustrated by David Dean
Barefoot Books
(available at barefootbooks.com) \$24.99

The Barefoot Book of Children takes readers on an imaginative and insightful trip around the world, with compassionate lessons about feelings, families, bodies and food. This kid-empowering book inspires curiosity and helps children gain a deeper understanding of themselves and the world around them.



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THIS SPECIAL REPORT WAS CREATED BY CONTENT SOLUTIONS, INDEPENDENT OF METRO EDITORIAL.

Be Canuck cool with these gift ideas

CANADIANA

Get a head start on celebrating our nation's birthday

Tara Nolan

With Canada celebrating its sesquicentennial birthday in 2017, Christmas is the perfect time to gift presents that feature our country's distinctive iconography in some artistic way. Here is but a sampling of the patriotic presents you will find in stores and online this holiday season.

Sweet storage: What's more



Canadian than maple syrup? Really, it should be its own food group. Grab a local tin and gift it with a special vessel. Store your maple syrup, salad dressings or sauces in one of these carafes that are up-cycled from beer bottles at Artech Glass Blowing Studios. Available in amber or clear glass, each one features some a Canada-themed symbol. *Canadian Maple Syrup Carafes*, \$25, available at artechstudios.ca.

Canadian critters: Graphic artist Christine Tatilon of Ani-Zet Designs has created a new Northern Friends collection, featuring common Canadian four-legged creatures. Choose from a moose, raccoon, squirrel, husky, fox or bear, each on a digitally printed cushion. The back features a wool melton fabric pouch to store books or devices. *Moose Pillow Cotton Twill*, \$78, available at anizet.com.

A symbol of pride: Not only were these rings, designed by Dorothée Rosen,

inspired by her natural surroundings, they were also created to celebrate obtaining her Canadian citizenship. Each one bears an imprint of a real maple leaf. Available in both men's and women's sizes in yellow, rose, white and green gold, as well as silver. *Maple Leaf Ring*, \$140 to \$1,320, available at dorothérosen.ca



Keep your lid warm: From



pennants to onesies, the Drake General Store always seems to reserve space on its shelves for a range of cool Canadian-themed giftables. Toques, those ubiquitous symbols of winter, featuring the store's Arborist label, for example, come emblazoned with "Canada," a province name, our venerable CBC or a Mountie. *Arborist Mountie Toque*, \$29.95, available at drakegeneralstore.ca.

Perfect for baby: If you have a baby to buy for, check out The Dapper Dodo's stylish bibs made from lightweight cotton and flannelette, and cotton and terrycloth-adorned maple wood teething rings. They are created by a working mom who loves to sew using whimsical, unique fabrics and this adorable beaver pattern definitely fits in with the Canada theme. *Teether*, \$15, *bandana bib*, \$12, available at facebook.com/thedapperdodo (message to order, prices subject to change based on fabric availability and cost).



CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP LEFT: LIMITED EDITION GICHIGAMI ARTISAN CANOE PADDLE; MOUNTIE TOQUE; MAPLE LEAF RING; MOOSE PILLOW COTTON TWILL; BANDANA BIB; CANADIAN MAPLE SYRUP CARAFES

Paddle away: Did you know there are over one million canoes in Canada? Purchasing one of these hand-painted, solid cherry wood paddles from Norquay Co. will benefit The Great Lakes. Artist, adventurer and avid canoeist Natasha Wittke is donating all sale proceeds from this particular design to the Nature Conservancy Great Lakes Project. *Limited Edition Gichigami Artisan Canoe Paddle*, \$385, available at norquayco.com.



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Ho-ho-ho hot home entertainment gear

NESTING SEASON

Televisions, sound bars, media players, and more

Marc Saltzman

Whatever you call it — “nesting,” “cocooning” or simply “brutal winter” — many of us are doubling down on home entertainment this time of year. Or perhaps pre-holiday sales on televisions and sound systems have something to do with it.

The following are a few picture-perfect home entertainment suggestions.

Sweet TVs

There's no shortage of stellar 4K TVs — that deliver four times the resolution of 1080p HD — but buying one will likely be contingent on your budget and room size.

With four different models between 50- and 65-inches, Samsung's KS8000 Series TVs (from \$2,299) are powered by “quantum dot” technology, which offer a wider colour palette and better brightness than most other televisions, thanks to teeny “nano” crystals in front of the backlight. Powered by a Tizen operating

system, Samsung has also upped its Smart TV experience, to deliver a more intuitive user-interface, faster access to on-demand entertainment, and more personalized recommendations.

Sony's X930D 4K HDR LED Smart TV (from \$2,499.99), on the other hand, also delivers stunning picture quality, a variety of big-screen sizes to choose from, and with the Android TV platform built in for access to the apps you know and love. Like the Samsung models, Sony's 4K TVs support high dynamic range (“HDR”) for high brightness and vivid colours (including some striking yellows and orange hues, such as a setting sun or crackling fire).

If budget permits, LG's 65-inch 4K UHD HDR Curved OLED Smart TV (\$5,499.95) is as good as it gets. Along with its concave design — which looks gorgeous even when it's turned off — this LG television uses organic light-emitting diodes (OLED) that offers “infinite” contrast (brighter whites and deeper blacks), as well as more vibrant colours and smooth motion.

If cash is tight but you're ready to buy a 4K TV with HDR, Hisense's H7 Series Ultra HD LED TV (from \$699 for 50-inch version) is a great-looking television with fast Wi-Fi (and with some apps

preloaded such as Netflix and YouTube), 4 HDMI ports to connect components, and a USB port for media you might have on a thumb-drive.

system, Samsung has also upped its Smart TV experience, to deliver a more intuitive user-interface, faster access to on-demand entertainment, and more personalized recommendations.



SAMSUNG'S HW-K950 SOUNDBAR

Serious sound

If you don't have the space or budget to set up a multi-speaker surround sound system, newer sound bars — that sit just below or above your television — can do the trick.

The SONOS PlayBar Soundbar Wireless Speaker (\$899.99) is one of the most feature-rich sound bars available. It houses nine speakers, supports Dolby Digital, and like other Sonos speakers it also wirelessly streams music from your favourite online services or from your own music library (controlled via an app).

Sony's HT-NT5 2.1ch Soundbar (\$849.99), on the other hand, includes a wireless subwoofer to place elsewhere in the room — and enjoy clarity and power of high-resolution sound from its six integrated speakers, and support for 4K/HDR video content.

On the high end of the spectrum — pun included — Samsung's HW-K950 Soundbar (\$1,999.99) delivers a supreme audio experience with its 15 built-in speakers, each with its own dedicated amplifier, and featuring Dolby Atmos technology. In fact, this is the industry's first sound bar to support two wireless rear speakers with up-firing drivers, for an enveloping, immersive sound field out of your movies, TV shows, and games. Prices subject to change dependent on retailer.



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Your support for the IWK can help save lives

Leona Salamé was born weighing just one pound and four ounces. She spent 68 days in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit before she could go home.

Giving a donation as a gift ensures the IWK will be able to respond to their most urgent care priorities and continue to provide the best possible care to critically ill children and youth right here at home.

It will enable the IWK to invest in the latest technology, purchase the most up-to-date equipment and fund life-saving research.

"Your support saves lives and that makes it the most precious thing in the world," says Edna Salamé, Leona's mom.

Why donate to the IWK? Because of donor generosity, Leona had access to leading-edge equipment including a portable ultrasound machine to provide a clear picture of Leona's well-being before she was born and a Neopuff that helped her breathe during her first few days. There is no better gift to give.

Your end-of-year donation will help critic-



George and Edna Salamé with their daughter Leona in the IWK's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. CONTRIBUTED

ally ill patients, like Leona, receive the best care right here at home.

"We are extremely grateful for the significant role donors play in providing specialized care to our region's critically ill patients and their families," says Krista Jangaard, former chief of Neonatal Intensive Care and now vice president of medicine and academic affairs at the IWK Health Centre.

"In our NICU, for example, these tiny babies, like Leona, are surrounded by donor-funded equipment that helps them survive, grow and develop until they are well enough to go home. That is an incredible gift to our families."

Donating is simple: You can visit the IWK online at iwkfoundation.org/leona or phone toll-free at 1-800-595-2266.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT MEANS A NEW KITCHEN FOR SOULS HARBOUR

A brand-new kitchen means so much to the folks of Souls Harbour Rescue Mission.

Souls Harbour won \$200,000 in grants from the Aviva Community Fund thanks to over 8,000 Nova Scotians who voted for them.

"Now we have a brand new kitchen, an accessible dining room and washrooms," says Michelle Porter. "We can cook for up to 450 guests at our big events."

With a walk-in freezer, Souls Harbour can now accept all food donations as well as buy in bulk.

"Since we began renovations our client base has grown by over 30 per cent, so having the larger kitchen means we can easily cook for up to 170 guests a day," Porter said.

Souls Harbour is in its fifth year of operation in Halifax. Just this year they were able to open a satellite location in Bridgewater, and they are already serving up to 40 people a day there.

Porter said the new kitchen compares to any restaurant in the city.

"In fact, we now serve our meals restaurant style," she said. "It takes more



CONTRIBUTED

volunteers, but it is worth it to provide that experience for our guests."

Christmas can be a difficult time of year for those who live in poverty. Souls Harbour is open Christmas Day for a party from 1-3 p.m. There will be chowder, a cookie buffet, and stockings to take home. On New Year's Eve at noon, they'll serve a three-course roast beef dinner.

To bring all this Christmas cheer Souls Harbour needs support from the community. To contribute, please visit SHRM.ca.



IWK Foundation

Meet Leona

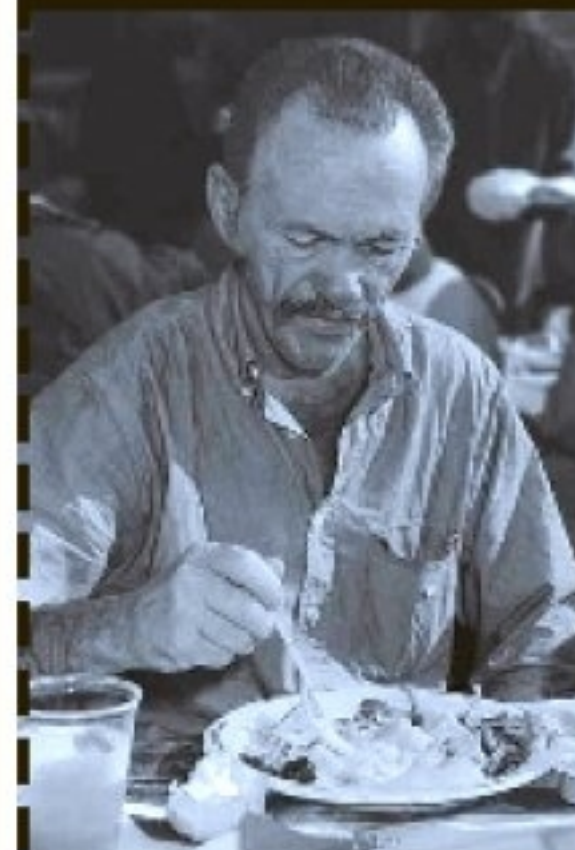
Leona Salamé from Greenwood, Nova Scotia was born weighing 1 pound 4 ounces. She spent 68 days in the IWK's Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Leona's IWK journey is not over yet.

Please give this holiday season.

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iwkfoundation.org/Leona

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Charge by phone at 902-405-HOME (4663) or give online at shrm.ca

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Halifax, NS B3K 5M8
Street Location: 5568 Cunard Street



Costs are average and include the expense of preparing and providing meals. All donations will be used for board-approved programs and projects. When any need or project goal has been met or cannot be completed, extra funds will be used in areas of greatest need.



A space befitting the holidays

TIPS

A few updates can make all the difference in the world

Glen Peloso
For Torstar News Service

It's beginning to look a lot like the time people start thinking about hosting friends and family in their homes for the holidays — and perhaps wanting to get a new kitchen installed before-hand.

Guess what? That's not going to happen. Renovations require a lot of time, but undertake these five projects now and you'll have a space fit for entertaining faster than Santa can slide down a chimney:

Spruce up the kitchen

No matter where you try to put them, guests always end up in the kitchen — so consider updating it. Paint and hardware date a kitchen, so repainting cabinets and changing hardware will achieve a fresher, modern look. Changing countertops will have an impact on the whole room and there are a variety of surfaces to choose from: granite, marble and laminate, but natural stone surfaces offer durability. This may also be a good time to replace ancient appliances, so you can pull off a roast beast and side dishes, no problem.

Boost the bathroom

Guests are also bound to visit this room. Paint or wallpaper can subtly or dramatically



Your guests will inevitably end up in the kitchen, so why not embrace it? Repainting cabinets and changing hardware will give the space a fresh new look. iStock

change the look of the space, while a new faucet in clean and sleek lines can freshen a tired-looking sink and vanity. Towels can inject a new colour or lend texture with pattern into the room. To really up your game, consider a self-cleaning toilet. American Standard has come

out with the ActiClean toilet that includes a one-minute or nine-minute clean at the press of a button. You may never fret again when unexpected guests drop by.

New furniture

If you want to change your sofa

or incorporate some new occasional chairs into your entertainment space, make those purchases now so your furniture can be delivered by holiday time. Think twice at this stage about ordering a custom-created piece of furniture — it can take as long as 10 weeks to arrive at

your door.

Another option is buying sample furnishings from showrooms, although this means you'll have to take them the way they look. If the furniture you'll be retiring is in good shape, consider donating it to a Furniture Bank.

Create a focal wall

The dining room warrants a little more attention, since it is really used during the holidays. Use paint or wallpaper to create a focal wall.

Then place something you want to highlight on or near this wall — a fantastic artwork or a sideboard.

The idea of a feature wall is to draw focus to something beyond just the wall, so have a compelling reason for the feature.

When it's well done, it can leave your guests thinking you've completely renovated the room since the last time they came to your place.

Be prepared

With lots of people coming and going, there are bound to be some messes along the way.

Guests can feel terrible when they accidentally spill or break things in your home, or when slush and debris on the soles of their boots end up on your floors.

Have items such as a wet mop, scrub brushes, paper towels, stain remover, a broom and dust pan, and even a hand-held vacuum cleaner at the ready so you can jump on those little messes quickly, prevent other accidents and keep the party going.

CLEANUP

Guests feel pretty bad when they spill something, so make sure to have lots of cleaning supplies on hand.

DESIGN

Saddle up in style on new rocking horses

The rocking horse, offspring of the hobby horse, seems to have appeared first in the early 17th century. Not much more than a log with board sides, it may have been inspired by the cradle, according to Alec Kinane of Legends Rocking Horses in Buckinghamshire, England.

"The horse on bow rockers that we know and love today was a product of 18th century England," Kinane says. "It was popular with the wealthy, and it is said they were used to help

develop children's balance for riding real horses."

Kinane and his wife, Beverly, have been hand-carving and restoring rocking horses for 30 years. Their finely finished steeds, crafted from hardwoods like oak and cherry, with real horse hair manes and tails and leather saddles, sell for thousands of pounds.

It may have been Queen Victoria's love of the rocking horse that led to its becoming a children's favourite.

There are less elaborate wooden rocking horses, like KidKraft's Derby horse. More of a horse-shaped rocking bench with yarn mane and tail, it's nonetheless a sturdy-looking steed.

But for those who want a rocking toy they can put their arms around, consider the cuddlier versions that dominate the market now.

Charm Company's Hercules is a regal creature made of soft chestnut plush on a wooden frame; squeeze his ear and his

mouth and tail move. Trademark Games' Happy Trails rocking horse is a cowgirl-friendly pink confection, complete with silvery ears and a battery-operated neigh.

Designers are experimenting with rocking toys beyond the horse, as well. Woes and Pia Weinberg of the Netherlands use Kvadrat wool and French oak to create three style-savvy rocking toys in shapes that surprise: a grey cloud, a jaunty bowler hat and a slice of watermelon.

Rockabye's Lambkin and Owliver rocking toys are low enough to the ground for the tiniest riders. Four buttons play songs about shapes, colours and ABC's.

Finally, future sailors might like the Maine Dory rocking boat. Crafted from salvaged Maine lumber.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



HANDOUT

Glen Peloso is principal designer of Peloso Alexander Interiors, national design editor of Canadian Home Trends magazine and a design expert on the Marilyn Denis Show on CTV. Contact him at pelosoalexander.com and follow on Twitter at @peloso1.

Delivering a weak punch



Saturday's card has many Canadian fans wanting more



How different things might have been.

Toronto's Massey Hall was sleepy and hollow Wednesday at lunchtime as the first foray of UFC 206 fight week summed up so much. As Anthony Pettis — one half of the headline act of the organization's first pay-per-view card on Canadian soil in almost two years — took centre stage, there were barely 60 souls inside the grand old venue.

Had original plans come to fruition, the place would have been packed to the rafters. When the UFC announced its return to the Air Canada Centre in August, the expectation was this would be the new regime welcoming back an icon of the past.

The UFC had been sold for \$4.2 billion in the summer and as much as Conor McGregor and Ronda Rousey's wild popularity had helped drive up the record price tag, the founding fathers played their part too, none more than Georges St-Pierre.

Now the man behind the initials GSP would finally be returning front and centre. St-Pierre, who hasn't fought in



Anthony Pettis spars during a UFC 206 workout in Toronto on Wednesday. EDUARDO LIMA/METRO

three years, enrolled in USADA's drug testing program which, as it happened, would have made him eligible to return by this Saturday. There were just contractual negotiations to navigate.

And then nothing happened. Talks were fruitless, barriers insurmountable. The UFC instead announced Daniel Cormier would put his light heavyweight title on the line against Anthony (Rumble) Johnson in the main event of a fight card that was shallow on names and left fans deep on reservations. There was even a social media push for a boycott.

Two weeks ago Cormier got injured, a new main event was fabricated from thin air and things

“Unfortunately I think for this event, there will be more viewers for the prelims than the pay-per-view.”

Olivier Aubin-Mercier

went from bad to worse to Wednesday — the eerie emptiness inside Massey Hall. All of this in a country and city that five years ago shattered the sport's record when 55,724 fans packed into the Rogers Centre for UFC 129. “It's unfortunate that Rumble

and Cormier couldn't fight, but I don't know if people were quite excited about that anyway,” said Mark Hominick, the retired UFC fighter who served as GSP's supporting act on that historic 2011 card. “Behind the scenes, the UFC were definitely hoping to have Georges. That would have been such a highlight for Canada, to come back in Toronto and headline a home card. That would have been huge.”

Instead Pettis and Max Holloway are headlining a card that has left many questioning the relationship between Canada and the UFC. In short, it's complicated.

The new regime hasn't done much to inspire confidence

north of the border, laying off almost the entirety of its Canadian office including its well-liked chief, Tom Wright. The country's most high-profile competitor, B.C.'s Rory MacDonald, was allowed to jump ship to rival organization Bellator. Now comes a pay-per-view that many fans consider barely above free-to-air Fight Night standard.

It's all a world removed from the turn of the decade when the UFC held nine Canadian PPVs in the space of three years. There have been just two in the three years since.

But, according to Hominick, Canada hasn't quite been holding up its part of the bargain either.

“Georges leaving was huge and no one has really stepped up to fill that void,” he told Metro. “There was so much pride with being Canadian and having Georges represent us. What we need is to get a new crop of stars and get behind them.”

It was perhaps best summed up by one of Saturday's home-based fighters. Olivier Aubin-Mercier was asked yesterday about being booked for the preliminary card, which airs on TSN, rather than the usually much higher profile pay-per-view portion.

“I like to be on the prelims because all my friends and family don't have to pay the pay-per-view,” said the Quebec Kid. “Unfortunately I think for this event, there will be more viewers for the prelims than the pay-per-view. Even if the main fighters are a really interesting fight ... the pay-per-view is going to get hit.”

How different things might have been.

UPSTART CANUCKS

Three Canadians who could step up in the post GSP/Rory MacDonald vacuum:

Misha Cirkunov

Undeclared in three UFC fights to date, the Latvia-born Torontonian is a bona fide prospect at light heavyweight. A victory over Nikita Krylov on Saturday could spur big things.



Chad Laprise

Laprise rebounded from back-to-back defeats with an impressive TKO win in Vancouver in August. Now the London, Ont., striker hopes a move up to welterweight will pay dividends.



Elias Theodorou

The Mississauga, Ont., middleweight talks a great game and, other than a solitary defeat last December, has largely backed it up. The Spartan will likely return to the octagon in Halifax in February.



MLB

Rockies to sign Desmond: Report

All-star free agent outfielder Ian Desmond and the Colorado Rockies have agreed to a \$70-million, five-year contract, a person familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity Wednesday because the agreement had not been announced.

A versatile 31-year-old, Desmond hit .285 with 22 homers and 86 RBIs this year in his lone season with Texas, earning his first all-star trip since 2012. He



Ian Desmond GETTY IMAGES

played shortstop from 2011-15, then was shifted to the outfield by the Rangers. Colorado may move him to first base.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IN BRIEF

Caddie dies in hospital after collapse on course

A caddie collapsed and died during the Dubai Ladies Masters on Wednesday, forcing the suspension of the first round and shortening the tournament to 54 holes.

The Ladies European Tour said 56-year-old caddie Maximilian Zechmann fell ill on the 13th fairway of the Majlis Course at the Emirates Golf Club. He was rushed to the hospital, where he was later pronounced dead.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Enforcer Scott retires

Former NHL tough guy John Scott, whose roller-coaster ride to the league's all-star weekend was a major storyline of the 2015-16 season, has announced his retirement.

Scott made headlines last season when he was voted into the NHL all-star tournament. He played for the Arizona Coyotes for part of the season and still served as Pacific Division captain despite being traded to Montreal and demoted to the AHL. THE CANADIAN PRESS

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Dortmund bests Madrid in Group F

With a late equalizer by substitute Marco Reus, Borussia Dortmund drew 2-2 with defending champion Real Madrid on Wednesday to win Group F and set a scoring record of 21 goals in the group stage of the Champions League.

Karim Benzema netted in each half to give Madrid a 2-0 lead, but forward Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang pulled the German side closer in the 61st and Reus struck the equalizer in the 88th. Dortmund finished the group

+ CONSOLATION

Madrid matched its 34-game unbeaten streak that had stood since the late 1980s.

with 14 points, two more than Madrid.

Cristiano Ronaldo was scoreless for the fourth straight time in the Champions League.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Delicate Pumpkin Ricotta Pasta



PHOTO: MAVA VISNVEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

Taking fall's super star veg — pumpkin — in a savoury rather than sweet direction yields one of our most luxurious pastas.

Ready in 20 minutes

Prep time: 20 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients

- 500 g pasta
- 1 Tbsp olive oil
- 2 shallots, diced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 Tbsp fresh chopped sage, plus more for garnish
- 1/4 cup ricotta
- 1 cup pumpkin purée
- 1 cup chicken broth
- fresh grated nutmeg to taste
- Salt to taste
- 1/4 cup water
- 1/2 cup Parmesan cheese, plus more for garnish

Directions

1. Cook pasta according to directions. Once al dente, reserve 1/4 cup of the cooking water and drain.
2. While pasta cooks, heat olive oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add shallots, garlic and sage and cook until tender, 5 to 7 minutes.
3. Add the ricotta, pumpkin purée, chicken broth, nutmeg and a pinch of salt; stir until combined.
4. Stir in pasta and coat with sauce. Add reserved pasta water to thin sauce to desired consistency. Mix in Parmesan cheese.
5. Serve pasta with sprinkling of Parmesan cheese and chopped sage.

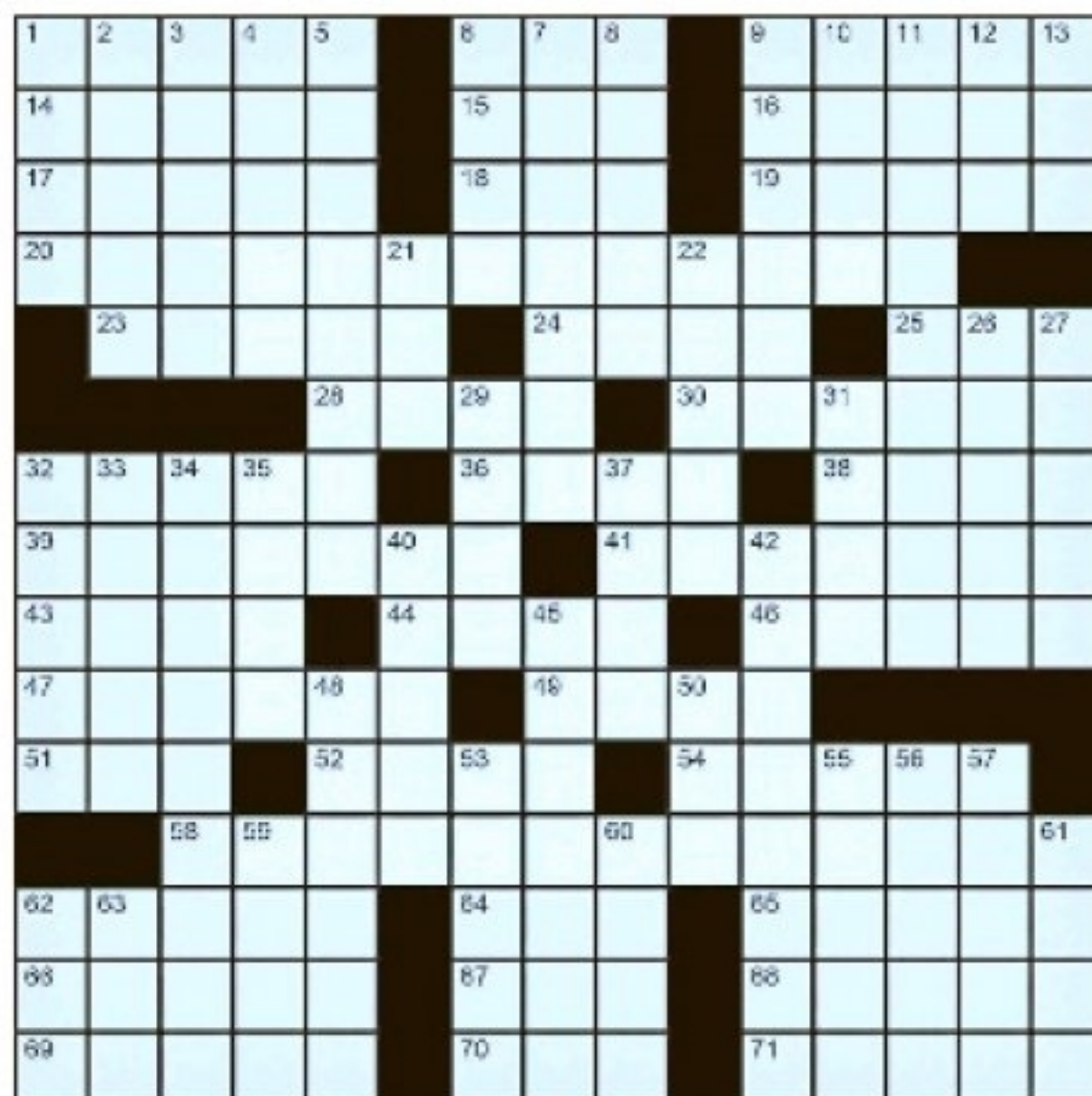
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CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Cramp
6. Ship's stern
9. Got Z's
14. _ couture
15. Quarrel
16. Real estate listings
17. Those in the know, _ circle
18. Rapa _ (Easter Island)
19. "West Side Story" (1961) character
20. Canadian journalist (b.1938 - d.2005) who anchored "ABC World News Tonight": 2 wds.
23. Merle Oberon title role film of 1941
24. Ms. Moore
25. "Gimme a _" (Wait!)
28. Tea service piece
30. Green-on-copper
32. Theatrically shows approval
36. "Coach" star, Jerry Van _
38. Rime
39. Discounted
41. Pasta consistency with a bit of a bite: 2 wds.
43. Mr. Sharif
44. Meddlesome [var. sp.]
46. Not yet established
47. Red-suited Christmas-time workers
49. Eyeliner of ancient Egypt
51. Mr. Barrett of early Pink Floyd
52. Gem type



54. Antelope of Africa
58. Town in Quebec on the Richelieu River: 2 wds.
62. The blabs
64. Matterhorn, for one
65. Bert's pal
66. Cake shop

- 'levels'
67. Hall & Oates
68. Architectural base
69. "In case you _ noticed..."
70. Currency in Japan
71. Fishhook line

DOWN

1. Transport
2. Comic strip square
3. Like your uncle's wife
4. War horse
5. Most in the mood for Christmas
6. "Rule, Britannia"

- composer
7. Metal castings factory
8. String
9. Ms. Twain, Canadian music superstar
10. Lengthy
11. Air-affecting discharges
12. Dog or cat

13. US airport screening org.
21. Skull section
22. Urge forward
26. Related maternally
27. Symbol on a computer keyboard's 6 key
29. Taro root
31. And so...
32. Christianity symbol
33. Catriona _ Doan (Canadian Olympian/broadcaster)
34. Like a rusty car sitting out in the middle of nowhere
35. Component
37. Boxing match ender, informally
40. Come to pass as a consequence
42. Lack of shine
45. Sunny yellow - Cloud white _ and what other 'up there' hue?: 2 wds.
48. Painter or sculptor
50. "And I Love _" by The Beatles
53. Gisele's football hubby Tom
55. Item worn in the kitchen
56. Jack of "Twin Peaks"
57. Feared tool at the dentist's office
59. The Byrds' repetitive song title word!
60. Stratford- _-Avon
61. Boat's stability provider
62. Ordinal suffix
63. Ms. Long

* IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Today the Moon is in your sign, magnifying your emotions. Keep this in mind if you start to overreact to something going on around you or to something someone says.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Work alone or behind the scenes, because this will suit you best today. You are ambitious right now. However, you should wait to get all the facts before you take action.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
A personal discussion with a female acquaintance will be meaningful for you today. In fact, this person might influence you to change your future goals.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Personal details about your private life seem to be public knowledge today, especially in the eyes of bosses and VIPs. Do you need to do some damage control?

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Do something to expand your world and give yourself a sense of adventure. Go someplace you've never been before. Shake things up a little!

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Today is a good day to focus on financial matters related to inheritances, shared property, taxes and debt. Clear up loose details if you can.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Because the Moon is opposite your sign today, you have to be cooperative with others. Be tolerant. Be compromising. At the very least, listen to what others have to say.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Do something to make yourself feel better organized and more on top of your game. Tidy your work area. Make some proactive lists. You want to get back in the game!

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
This is a playful, lighthearted day. Enjoy romantic liaisons with others. Fun activities with children will delight. The arts, sports events and social occasions are great choices.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Home, family and your private life are your top priorities today. A conversation with a female relative will be important.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Trust your hunches today. Instead of thinking things through, you might have a feeling about what you should do. Sometimes, this works better.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Finances are on your mind today, and that's a good thing. It's important to know what you own and what you owe, because information is power. Get the facts so that you are in the know.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

			4	1				
			3		9	6		
		5					1	
	7		9					1
5					4			7
4		1	2	7				6
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		2	8	4	6	1	9	

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8	4	7	9	3	2	1	5	6
1	9	2	6	4	5	7	8	3
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4	5	6	2	9	7	8	3	1
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2	8	1	5	6	3	4	9	7
7	3	8	1	5	6	9	2	4
5	2	4	3	7	9	6	1	8
6	1	9	8	2	4	3	7	5



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